

REMARKS

The Notice of Allowance dated December 11, 2007 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto.

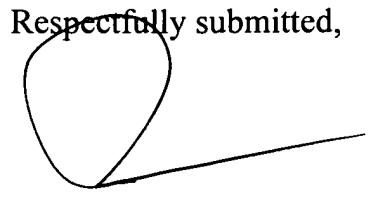
Claims 1, 9, 10, 14, 21, and 25-29 are herein amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the present invention. No new matter is added. Claims 1-18 and 20-29 are respectfully submitted for consideration.

Claims 1-18 and 20-29 were previously allowed. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments are directed to minor formality changes and do not raise new issues of patentability. Thus, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-18 and 20-29 are respectfully submitted.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned representative at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal
Information Disclosure Statement
PTO-1449 Form
2 References
International Search Report
Check No. 017998